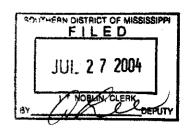
IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHER DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI HATTIESBURG DIVISION



WILL-DRILL RESOURCES, INC.

PLAINTIFF

V.

CASE NO. 2:04-(V-248B, Su

SIGNAL, LLC, et al.

DEFENDANTS

COMPLAINT

COMES NOW, Will-Drill Resources, Inc. (Will-Drill) by and through its attorneys, and files this Complaint for declaratory judgment, to remove clouds on title, and for damages for the following reasons:

PARTIES

- 1. The Plaintiff in this case is Will-Drill Resources, Inc., a Louisiana corporation domiciled at 416 Travis Street, Suite 1200, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101. Will-Drill is qualified to do business in the State of Mississippi.
- 2. The following parties are Defendants in this case and are domiciled at, and may be served with process, at the following respective addresses:
 - a. Signal, LLC4273 I-55 North, Ste. 1-AJackson, MS 39206-6157
 - b. Gulf Coast Mineral, LLC
 302 W. 8th Street
 Gulfshores, AL 36542
 - c. David L. Perkins
 218 Carmel Avenue
 Jackson, MS
 - d. Heirs and Estate of X. M. Frascogna 6350 I-55 North Jackson, MS 39211

- e. Lloyd G. Spivey
 P. O. Box 8
 Canton, MS 39046-0008
- f. J. C. Burgess, Sr.211 South Railroad Ave.Brookhaven, MS 39601
- g. J. C. Burgess, Jr.211 South Railroad Ave.Brookhaven, MS 39601
- h. Norris Bowie
 P. O. Box 1039
 LaPlata, Maryland 20646
- i. Hale E. Roberts, Sr.619 Highland Colony Pky Ridgeland, MS 39157
- j. Louis Mullen P. O. Box 929 Brookhaven, MS 39602-0929
- k. Robert E. Jones
 P. O. Box 888
 Brookhaven, MS 39602-0888
- Marion Buchanan
 2435 N. Cheryl Dr.
 Jackson, MS 39211
- m. Cooper Bryant 1084 Parkwood Place Jackson, MS 39206
- n. Mortco, Inc. 8700 Crownhill Rd., Suite 800 San Antonio, TX 78209
- o. Jerry T. Johnston 220 North Timber St. Brandon, Ms. 39042

JURISDICATION AND VENUE

3. This case concerns a dispute as to title to certain oil, gas and mineral leases located in Section 29, Township 9 North, Range 19 West, Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi between citizens of different states. The amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 28 USC § 1332 and venue is proper under 28 USC §1391(a)(2).

FACTS

- 4. In the years 1976 through 1979, the mineral leases, which are the subject of this litigation, were taken from owners of mineral interests in Section 29, Township 9 North, Range 19 West. These leases, and original parties thereto (Lessor and Lessee), are described in Exhibit A, attached hereto. Each of these leases created a leasehold interest in the minerals owned by the Lessor which continued after the primary term, for as long as certain production or operations continued as per the term of the lease. By assignments and other transfers, the Defendants now appear to own a working interest in each of the leases as indicated for each Defendant in Exhibit A (Current WI Record Owners).
- 5. Since August 2002, there has been no production from any well on lands under these leases or on lands unitized therewith. Furthermore, Plaintiff would show that there have not been sufficient operations to maintain these leases, under their terms, since production ceased.
- 6. Beginning in October, 2003, Will-Drill has been acquiring oil, gas and mineral leases taken from the current mineral owners in said Section 29. The leases acquired and held by Will-Drill are identified in Exhibit B hereto. These leases were taken from Lessors, or their successors, who executed the Leases identified on Exhibit A,

which have now terminated. As the leasehold owner of said interests in Section 29, Will-Drill has standing to make these claims raised in this litigation.

7. Will-Drill has made written demand on each Defendant to release each lease in which they have an interest.

COUNT I

REQUEST FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

- 8. Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. Pro. 57, the Court can and should issue the following declaratory judgments:
 - A. The oil, gas and mineral leases identified and described in Exhibit

 A have terminated or expired due to lack of production and/or operations as
 required under their terms.
 - B. Each Defendant who has a current working interest ownership in any of the leases that have terminated and fails to comply with Miss. Code Ann. § 89-5-23 (Supp. 2003), shall forfeit the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each lease in which they own an interest.

COUNT II

REMOVAL OF CLOUDS FROM PLAINTIFF'S TITLE

9. Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 11-17-31, Plaintiff hereby request that the oil and gas leases identified in Exhibit A hereto be cancelled of record as a cloud on Plaintiff's paramount title, under the leases described in Exhibit B, to the leasehold interest of those minerals in Section 29.

COUNT III

DAMAGES

10. Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 89-5-23(2), each Defendant, who failed or refused to release or cancel said oil, gas and mineral leases on the record upon Plaintiff's demand, should be required to pay to the Plaintiff the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each lease in which they hold record title leasehold interest.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff prays that the Court issue a declaratory judgment that

- (a) the oil, gas and mineral leases identified and described in Exhibit A have terminated or expired due to lack of production and/or operations as required under their terms; and
- (b) Each Defendant who is a Current WI Owner of any of the leases that have terminated and fails to comply with Miss. Code Ann. § 89-5-23 (Supp. 2003), shall forfeit the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each lease in which they own an interest.

Plaintiff further prays that this Court cancel of record all leases identified in Exhibit A hereto, as a cloud on the paramount title to the working interests of Plaintiff in Section 29. Plaintiff further prays that this Court award to Plaintiff, from each Defendant, the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each lease in which each Defendant holds a record title leasehold working interest for the failure to cancel said oil, gas and mineral lease upon demand under Miss. Code Ann. § 89-5-23(2).

Plaintiff prays for such other general or equitable relief as the Court may deem proper.

Respectfully submitted,

WILL-DRILL RESOURCES, INC.

OF COUNSEL:

Jefferson D. Stewart (MSB #7902) J. Jeffrey Trotter (MSB #9670) Adams and Reese LLP P. O. Box 24297 Jackson, MS 39225-4297 Phone: 601/353-3234

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EXHIBIT A TERMINATED LEASES

Tr/ Lse# Bk/F		Lessor	Lessee	Current WI Record Owner	Date	
1-1	97/526	Rose Helen Hutchins Lee	David L. Perkins	David L. Perkins Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC X.M. Frascogna Lloyd G. Spivey	12-Jul-76	
1-2	97/529	Mary Nell Hutchins Riley	David L. Perkins	David L. Perkins Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC X.M. Frascogna Lloyd G. Spivey	12-Jul-76	
1-3 & 2- 1		Maggie Bell H. Nesbit	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	16-Jun-76	
1-4	97/661	G.M. McLendon	Jessie C. Williams	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC Or JC Burgess, Sr., J.C. Burgess, Jr., Norris Bowie, Hale E. Roberts	19-Jul-76	
1-5	97/655	D.E. Grubbs	J.C. Burgess, Jr.	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC Twelve-Four-II, Ltd or JC Burgess, Sr., Louis Mullen, Robert Jones	9-Jul-76	
1-6 & 2- 2	97/653	Margaret Cole Berry, et ux.	J.C. Burgess, Jr.	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC Twelve-Four-II, Ltd Or JC Burgess, Sr., Louis Mullen, Robert Jones	3-Jul-76	
1-8	102/246	Etta Cole Daughdrill	Jerry T. Johnston	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC Jerry T. Johnston	3-Dec-76	
1-9	110/546	Nancy Ann Smith Wynne	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	4-Арг-77	
		Mrs. Jonnie M. Clark	Cooper Bryant	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC Marion Buchanan Cooper Bryant	14-Jun-77	
:		Robert R. and Iva W. Hutchins	Jerry T. Johnston	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC Jerry T. Johnston	24-Jun-76	
5-1		lona H. Hutchins, James D. Hutchins II, Mrs. R. L. Fortenberry, Mrs. James Bridges, Charles Walter Hutchins, and Ruth Hutchins	Jerry T. Johnston	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC Jerry T. Johnston	1-Jul-76	

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EXHIBIT A TERMINATED LEASES

<u>Tr/</u> Lse#	Bk/Pg	<u>Lessor</u>	Lessee	Current WI Record Owner	<u>Date</u>
6-1	110/546	Nancy Ann Smith Wynne	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	4-Apr-77
7-1	97/7	Norvelle Ann Hutchins Stephens et vir., Roy Stephens	Jerry T. Johnston	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC Jerry T. Johnston	24-Jun-76
8-1	97/273	lona H. Hutchins, James D. Hutchins II, Mrs. R. L. Fortenberry, Mrs. James Bridges, Charles Walter Hutchins, and Ruth Hutchins	Jerry T. Johnston	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC Jerry T. Johnston	1-Jul-76
11-1	115/576	Betty D. Mortimer, Glenn G. Mortimer III, Anne M. Ballantyne and Mary Mortimer Campbell and the Citizen State Bank of Corpus Christi, Trustees for the Charles Campbell Trust and the Colin Campbell Trust	Mortco, Inc.	Mortco, Inc. or Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	3-Oct-77
11-2	115/167	Ridgway Management, Inc.	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	11-Oct-77
11-3		Minerals Management Inc., a Mississippi Corporation, represented herein by E. B. McGehee, Vice President, and Dorothy F. Curtis, Assistant Secretary	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	11-Oct-77
11-4		First National Bank of Jackson and C. R. Ridgway Jr., Trustees of the Estate of W. E. McGehee	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	11-Oct-77
11-5		First National Bank of Jackson and C. R. Ridgway Jr., Trustee of the Estate of Della A. McGehee	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	11-Oct-77
12-4	108/603	Leola Daughdrill Coggin	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	5-Apr-77
12-5	108/605	Ausby Daughdrill	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	5-Apr-77
12-6	108/607	Ener Lee Daughdrill Hemby	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	5-Apr-77
12-7	108/609	George Robert Daughdrill	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	5-Apr-77
12-9	109/9	Ina Mae Daughdrill Jones	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	7-Apr-77
12-11	110/200	James Daughdrill	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	7-Apr-77
12-12	110/467	Gladys Hurst	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	19-May-77

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EXHIBIT A TERMINATED LEASES

Tr/ Lse#	Bk/Pg	Lessor	Lessee	Current WI Record Owner	<u>Date</u>
12-14	110/471	Janice Roberts	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	20-May-77
12-16	110/475	Rev. Kenneth Roberts	Marion Corporation	Signal, LLC Gulf Coast Minerals, LLC	20-May-77

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EXHIBIT B PLAINTIFF'S LEASES

<u>Tr/</u> Lse #	Bk/Pg	<u>Lessor</u>	<u>Lessee</u>	<u>Date</u>
1-1	243/11	Rose Helen Hutchins Lee	Bienville Land	14-Oct-03
			Services, Inc.	
1-2	241/653	George H. Riley, Jr.	Bienville Land	14-Oct-03
			Services, Inc.	
1-2	241/658	Jo Ann Riley	Bienville Land	14-Oct-03
			Services, Inc.	
1-2	242/332	John Mark Riley, Sr.	Bienville Land	14-Oct-03
			Services, Inc.	.
1-2	241/703	Mary Neil Riley Myers	Bienville Land	14-Oct-03
			Services, Inc.	
1-2	241/708	Joe Riley	Bienville Land	14-Oct-03
			Services, Inc.	
1-2		Sabra Ann Riley Sullivan	Bienville Land	14-Oct-03
			Services, Inc.	
1-3 & 2-	241/632	Bradley Craig Morris and	Bienville Land	8-Jul-03
<u>1</u>		Elizabeth Ann Morris	Services, Inc.	
1-4	241/668	Mrs. E. E. Thrash	Bienville Land	3-Oct-03
			Services, Inc.	
1-4	241/638	Betty Bowen	Bienville Land	3-Oct-03
			Services, Inc.	
1-5	241/663	Grace Grubbs	Bienville Land	16-Oct-03
			Services, Inc.	
1-6	241/683	Francis Little	Bienville Land	10-Jul-03
			Services, Inc.	
1-8	241/723	Josephine Cascio Daughdrill,	Bienville Land	16-Oct-03
		agent and attorney-in-fact for Hubbard Daughdrill	Services, Inc.	
1-9 & 6-	241/629	Nancy Ann Smith Chandler,	Bienville Land	19-Dec-03
1		Trustee of the Nancy Ann Smith Chandler Trust	Services, Inc.	
1-10	242/159	Betty Dixon and Ernie Clark,	Bienville Land	19-Dec-03
		Joint Conservators for Jonnie	Services, Inc.	
		M. Clark		
4-1	241/718	Minada O. Johnston, Tr. F/b/o Bobbie P. Hutchins Trust u/w/o Iva W. Hutchins	Will-Drill Resources, Inc.	
5-1 & 8-	241/688	Patsy M. Hutchins	Bienville Land	9-Jul-03
1			Services, Inc.	
5-1 & 8-	242/165	Charles Walter Hutchins	Bienville Land	23-Dec-03
1			Services, Inc.	
5-1 & 8-	241/713	James R. Bridges and Mary	Bienville Land	6-Oct-03
1		Ellen Bridges	Services, Inc.	
5-1 & 8-	241/693	Gwendolyn Hutchins	Bienville Land	10-Jul-03
ļ		Fortenberry and Robert L. Fortenberry	Services, Inc.	
5-1 & 8-	241/673	Ruth Ellen Bridges	Bienville Land	6-Oct-03
	<u> </u>		Services, Inc.	1
3-1		Nancy Ann Smith Chandler	Bienville Land	12-Dec-03
		Trust	Services, Inc.	
7-1	241/678	Norvelle Ann Hutchins	Bienville Land	8-Jul-03
		Stephens and Roy Stephens	Services, Inc.	

Exhibit B Page 1 of 2

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EXHIBIT B PLAINTIFF'S LEASES

<u>Tr/</u> Lse #	Bk/Pg	Lessor	Lessee	Date
<u> </u>	DIVIE	Lesson	<u> </u>	Date
11-1		Glenn G. Mortimer, III	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	19-Dec-02
11-1		Anne Minor Mortimer Ballantyne	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	19-Dec-02
11-1		Dorchester Royalty Corporation	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	19-Dec-02
11-2	243/38	Ridgway Management, Inc.	Will-Drill Resources, Inc.	17-Feb-04
11-3	243/85	Minerals Management, Inc.	Will-Drill Resources, Inc.	20-Mar-04
11-4	243/41	C. R. Ridgway, IV and Trustmark National Bank of Jackson, Co-Trustees of the Trust under the will of W. E. McGehee	Will-Drill Resources, Inc.	17-Feb-04
11-5	243/44	C. R. Ridgway, IV and Trustmark National Bank of Jackson, Co-Trustees of the Trust under the will of Della A. McGehee	Will-Drill Resources, Inc.	17-Feb-04
12-4		Rosaline C. Martin	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	6-Nov-03
12-5	242/317	Ausby Daughdrill	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	6-Nov-03
12-6	242/302	Ener Lee Hemby	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	6-Nov-03
12-7	242/312	George Robert Daughdrill	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	6-Nov-03
12-9	242/435	William Jones	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	4-Nov-03
12-9	242/455	Robert Jones	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	4-Nov-03
2-9	242/450	Betty Rose Chisom	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	4-Nov-03
2-9	242/445	James Lavell Jones	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	4-Nov-03
2-11	242/327	James Daughdrill	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	6-Nov-03
2-12	242/307	Gladys Hurst Leto	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	16-Oct-03
2-16	242/297	Kenneth Roberts	Bienville Land Services, Inc.	16-Oct-03

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CIVIL COVER SHEET 2:04 - (V- 248 BCV

SJS 44 (Rev. 3/99)

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS WILL-DRILL RESOURCES, INC.					DEFENDANTS SIGNAL, LLC, ET AL.				
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				NOTE: IN LA		isted	OF DEPARTMENT	<1.3	ppi —
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Ad Jefferson D. Stewart (MSE Adams and Reese LLP, P (601) 353-3234	3 7902) & J. Jeffrey	y Trotter (MSB 96	370) 4297,	Attorneys (If K	Cnown	JUL 27	2004	n er	
II. BASIS OF JURISDICT 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff 2 U.S. Government Defendant	Federal Question (U.S. Government)Diversity	n One Box Only) nent Not a Party) enship of Parties	(For Di	ZENSHIP OF Another State) PTF DEF 1 F1	Incorporated or of Business In	and One Box for Principal Place		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in C		Forei	en Country		Foreign Nation		6 🗀	5 —
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28 USC 1332 and 28 USC 139 VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: VIII. RELATED CASE(S)	***************************************	risdiction IS A CLASS ACTIO	N DEMAN	D		ECK YES only RY DEMAND:	if demanded in cor	nplaint:	- -
DATE 7/23/0 9 FOR OFFICE ARE ONLY RECEIPT # HOW43/AMOUN	Д	APPLYING IFP	ORNEV OF I	JUDGE_	DOCKET NUMBER	MAG. JUDG	E		: